

II. REMARKS

Entry of new claims 21-25 is respectfully requested. New claim 21 corresponds to claim 8, rewritten in independent form including all limitations of its base claim and the intervening claim. Likewise, new claims 22-25 correspond to claims 14-17, rewritten in independent form including all limitations of their base claim and the intervening claims.

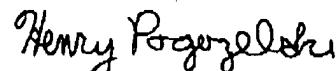
Claims 8 and 14-17 currently stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but are said to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. See Final Office Action dated July 7, 2004, at page 9 (paragraph 6).

Conclusion

Applicants have now amended the claims according to the Examiner's invitation in the Final Office Action. In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in proper form and condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that a notice of allowance be issued without delay.

The Examiner is requested to please contact the undersigned attorney at (713) 787-1418 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,



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